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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/784,178	02/24/2004	Jang-Kun Song	6192.0164.C1	1140

7590 08/02/2005

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EXAMINER

SCHECHTER, ANDREW M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2871

DATE MAILED: 08/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

H.A

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/784,178

Applicant(s)

SONG ET AL.

Examiner

Andrew Schechter

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 26,27,29-32 and 34-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 26,27,29-32 and 34 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 35-37 and 39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 38 and 40 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/853,642.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 15 June 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant has amended claims 35 and 39 to recite "a conductive pattern separated from the gate line" in order to distinguish over *Murade* as applied in the previous action, where an extension of the gate line was cited as the conductive pattern (or buffer layer). This amendment does not distinguish over *Murade*, however, since other elements in *Murade* meet the amended claim language as discussed below.

The applicant states [p. 13] that the previous claim 41 was cancelled because it was inconsistent with the description at p. 4, lines 13 and 14 of the specification. The examiner would point out that that description relates to the invention when the buffer conductive layer is on the same layer as the data line assembly. When it is on the same layer as the gate line assembly [as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, for instance] the gate line and the buffer layer are indeed electrically disconnected, as recited in the previous claim 41.

Terminal Disclaimer

2. The terminal disclaimer filed on 15 June 2005 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of

U.S. Patent No. 6,788,356 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

3. The terminal disclaimer filed on 24 January 2005 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of U.S. Patent No. 6,781,651 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 35 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Matsumoto*, U.S. Patent No. 6,249,011.

Matsumoto discloses [see Fig. 2, for instance] an LCD comprising a substrate [9], a black matrix [3] formed on the substrate and disconnected at portions thereof, a gate line [1] formed on the substrate, a data line [2] intersecting the gate line, and a conductive pattern [4] separated from the gate line and covering a gap between the disconnected portions of the black matrix. Claim 35 is therefore anticipated.

Matsumoto also discloses a method for manufacturing such an LCD as recited in claim 39, so claim 39 is also anticipated.

6. Claims 35-37 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Murade*, U.S. Patent No. 6,297,862.

Murade discloses [see Figs. 1 and 2, for instance] an LCD comprising a substrate [10], a black matrix [7] formed on the substrate and disconnected at portions thereof, a gate line [2] formed on the substrate, a data line [3] intersecting the gate line, and a conductive pattern [6, Cr film on other substrate, col. 7, lines 35-39] separated from the gate line and covering a gap between the disconnected portions of the black matrix. Claim 35 is therefore anticipated.

The gate line is formed on the black matrix [see Fig. 2], so claim 36 is also anticipated. The black matrix is mesh-shaped, so claim 37 is also anticipated. *Murade* also discloses a method for manufacturing such an LCD as recited in claim 39, so claim 39 is also anticipated.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 38 and 40 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. Claims 26, 27, 29-32, and 34 are allowed.

9. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art does not disclose the device of claim 26, in particular the amended limitation that the element previously referred to as a buffer layer, covering a gap between the disconnected portions of the black matrix, is conductive and is separated from the gate lines. Claim 26 is therefore allowed, as are its dependent claims 27, 29, and 30. Analogously, the prior art does not disclose the method of claim 31, which is therefore allowed, as are its dependent claims 32 and 34.

The prior art does not disclose the device of claim 38, in particular the limitations that the conductive pattern separated from the gate line and covering a gap between the disconnected portions of the black matrix is formed on the same plane as the gate line. Claim 38 would therefore be allowable if rewritten appropriately. Similarly, the method of claim 40 is not disclosed by the prior art, so it would be allowable if rewritten appropriately.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

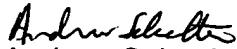
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew Schechter whose telephone number is (571) 272-2302. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:00 - 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H. Kim can be reached on (571) 272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Andrew Schechter
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2800
29 July 2005